

EAST PROVIDENCE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

East Providence City Hall

145 Taunton Avenue

East Providence, Rhode Island 02914

School Committee Meeting

January 12, 2010

Open Session

Mr. Carcieri called the meeting to order at 6:00PM. School Committee Members present: Luisa Abatecola, Shannon Barbosa, Robert Faria, Steven Santos, Anthony Carcieri. Also present: Dr. Mario F. Cirillo, Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Lonnie Barham, Chief Operating Officer and Sara Rapport, Esq.

A motion was made by Mr. Santos to convene in Executive Session for purposes of discussing:

Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a) (1) to discuss the job performance of one individual. This individual was notified in writing that the Committee intended to convene in executive session to discuss his or her performance and that person has declined to have this discussion take place in open session

Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(2) to discuss collective bargaining with respect to the Teachers contract, the Teacher Assistants contract, the Custodians contract, the Secretaries Contract and the Principals Contract.

Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(2) to discuss litigation, specifically EPSC v. EPEA (DJ); Kevin Costa (IOD); EP v. Rocha, Ramiro Lopes, RIDOL Wage Claim, Salary Rollback Arb.

Motion seconded by Mr. Faria. Roll Call vote: Mrs. Abatecola, aye; Mrs. Barbosa, aye; Mr. Faria, aye; Mr. Santos, aye; Mr. Carcieri, aye.

The School Committee returned to public session at 7:30PM.

Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence were observed.

Student/Teacher Recognition – Mr. Barham acknowledged ten teachers who achieved tenure as of last school year; certificates were presented to teachers present at the meeting.

Reports –

Student Liaison – Erin Butler presented a report on high school events/activities.

Superintendent's Report

**Personnel Report on Retirements/Resignations/Leaves of Absence –
Presented by Mrs. Patti Whalen, Human Resources/ Benefits
Manager:**

Resignations

Meredith Miller Speech-Language Pathologist

Meadowcrest Early Learning Center - Effective 1/18/10

Leaves of Absence

Rinda Foster Special Ed. Teacher – High School

Effective 1/1/10 – Remainder of 09-10 School year

Sandra LeBert Supervisory Assistant – Francis Elementary

Effective immediately – Remainder of 09-10 School year

Financial Report – Mr. Barham, Chief Operating Officer explained that two months into the new fiscal year, revenues are at 15.65% , which is 1% under budget; this will correct as the year progresses; Expenditures are at 15.95% for the first two months with benefits and salary slightly over; this is a cyclical/timing issue; technology and maintenance are over; both were reduced when the city cut our budget and we are spending quickly to update technology faster to take advantage of the school year; same with maintenance issues. Kelly Ahrens, Director of Technology noted that two new portable labs (net books on carts) are now set up at Riverside Middle School, one at Martin Middle School and one at the High School.

Mr. Santos asked about a completion date for the audit for last fiscal year. Mr. Barham related that staff is putting together information for the auditors; we may have figures by mid February; he is confident that we are still in the \$50,000 range of a balance budget.

Race to the Top Update – Dr. Cirillo explained that a special School Committee meeting was held on 1/5/2010 wherein he recommended to the School Committee that East Providence become a participant in the Race to the Top grant and a Memorandum of Agreement was completed, signed, and submitted on 1/8/10 in order to be included with RI Department of Education's grant application. Documents will be available on Monday at RIDE for review; Assistant Superintendents were invited to attend a meeting that day at RIDE. Dr. Cirillo provided an overview of the proposal. East Providence stands to receive minimum of \$300,000/year for four years (max to \$1 Million/year) if RIDE is successful in receiving the grant. Mr. Faria requested the status of union support for the grant. Dr. Cirillo answered that Commissioner Gist met with National Education Association representatives; they have until tomorrow to sign on to the grant. The Commissioner stated that lack of union support would hurt the district/state's position to receive an award.

H1N1 Update – Mr. Daft provided an update on the second round of vaccination clinics to be held at the elementary schools from January 13th through February 5, 2010. Also a statewide regional clinic for

first responders and emergency health care workers was held at Martin Middle School on January 9th and an additional clinic open to all residents will be held on February 13, 2010 at Martin Middle School.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes – 12/8/09 & 1/5/2010 – Motion made by Mr. Faria to approve, seconded by Mr. Santos. Vote 4- 1. (Abstention; Mr. Santos not present at the 1/5/10 meeting)

Personnel Appointments

George Carrier Director – NOVA.Net-High School

Richard Silva Coach-NOVA.Net-High School

Patricia Hawksley Coach-NOVA.Net – High School

Tuesday/Thursday

Maureen Spaight Alternate-Coach-NOVA.Net

Mondays/Wednesday

Deborah Ormerod Alternate-Coach-NOVA.Net

Tuesday/Thursday

Full Time Custodians – 12 Months – Effective 1/19/10

Joseph Vargas High School – Nights

Maria Lopes Kent Heights

Jesse Bartlett High School

Seasonal Custodians – 180 Days – Effective 1/19/10

Joao Sousa Martin Middle School – Nights

Richard Pacheco High School – Nights

Patrick Costa Riverside Middle School – Nights

Fernando DoRego Hennessey School – Nights

Gary Luther Francis School – Days

Miguel Lopes Oldham School - Nights

Motion: Mr. Faria/Second: Mrs. Abatecola. Vote 5-0.

Requisitions

Bill Lists

Warrant #959 1/7/10 \$820,745.29

Warrant #961 1/8/10 \$3,382,616.48

Warrant #960 1/7/10 \$25,000.00

Motion: Mr. Faria/Second: Mr. Santos. Vote 5-0.

Action Items

Awarding of Bids: School Facilities Feasibility Study – Dr. Cirillo explained the bid and selection process: he recommended acceptance of SMMA as the vendor of choice for the feasibility study and requested that the School Committee award the bid. A motion was made by Mr. Faria to award the bid to SMMA in the amount of \$85,000, seconded by Mr. Santos. Roll call vote: Mrs. Abatecola, aye;

Mrs. Barbosa, aye; Mr. Faria, aye; Mr. Santos, aye; Mr. Carcieri, aye.

Additional Appointments to Building Committee – Tabled

Announcements

Mrs. Abatecola noted that on April 6th the School Committee voted on a public comment policy for a six-month trial period; she asked to put it back on the agenda to re-evaluate it. Mr. Faria commented on various school activities; he attended the Robotics Competition at Roger Williams University in which our middle school students participated. Mr. Faria would like to see this program continued through high school and requested that this program be discussed more in-depth at the next meeting.

Dr. Cirillo noted that Kindergarten registration for the district will begin on February 1, 2010.

The School Committee recessed open session to reconvene executive session at 8:20PM.

The School Committee returned to open session at 8:45PM; Mr. Carcieri called the open session to order.

Mr. Carcieri requested a motion to re-seal the minutes of the Executive Session. Motion made by Mr. Faria, seconded by Mrs.

Barbosa. Roll call vote: Mrs. Abatecola, aye; Mrs. Barbosa, aye; Mr. Faria, aye; Mr. Santos, aye; Mr. Carcieri, aye.

Report on Executive Session Vote

A motion was made by Mr. Faria to uphold a prior decision to terminate an employee, seconded by Mrs. Barbosa. Roll call vote: Mrs. Abatecola, aye; Mrs. Barbosa, aye; Mr. Faria, aye; Mr. Santos, aye; Mr. Carcieri, aye.

A motion was made by Mr. Faria to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Santos. Vote 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Iannelli, Administrative Assistant

Shannon Barbosa, Clerk of the Committee